



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

BRITISH AND AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR, 1778.

CONTRIBUTED BY WORTHINGTON C. FORD.

(Continued from p. 174.)

JOHN CUNNINGHAM, 1st Lieut. in Pennsylvania militia. Taken not far from Philadelphia, 16 September, 1777.

ABRA'M STOUT, 1st Lieut. in the 2^d New Jersey regiment. Commissioned, 1 January, 1777. Taken at Cooper's Ferry, Jersey, 6 April, 1778.

HENRY MURFITS [Murfields], Lieut. in the Pennsylvania militia. Commissioned, 6 May, 1777. Taken at his own house, 19 February, 1778.

ROBERT WALKER, Lieut. in Col. Brewer's regiment. Commissioned, 6 November, 1776. Taken 15 miles from Philadelphia, 7 April, 1778.

JOHN HYAT, 2^d Lieut. in Col. Hall's regiment. Commissioned, 5 April, 1777. Taken at his own house while on furlow, 25 April, 1778.

SAM^L WHITING, 2^d Lieut. in Col. Lamb's regiment. Taken, 10 December, 1777.

TIMOTHY TAYLOR, Ensign in Col. Bradley's regiment. Commissioned, 10 June, 1776. Taken [at Fort Washington], 16 November, 1776.

JOSEPH HULL, Ensign in Col. Bradley's regiment. Commissioned, 10 June, 1776. Taken [at Fort Washington], 16 November, 1776.

DAN^L KNOWLTON, Ensign in Col. Knowlton's regiment. Commissioned, 20 June, 1776. Taken [at Fort Washington], 16 November, 1776.

ELI BARNUM, Ensign in Col. Bradley's regiment. Commissioned, 1 July, 1776. Taken [at Fort Washington], 16 November, 1776.

THO^S U. FOSDICK, Ensign in Col. Charles Webb's regiment. Commissioned, 10 July, 1776. Taken [at Fort Washington], 16 November, 1776.

JOHN THOMSON, Ensign in Morgan's militia. Commissioned, March, 1776. Taken near Princeton, 3 January, 1777.

JEREMIAH B. EELLS, Ensign in Col. Bradley's regiment. Commissioned, 10 June, 1776. Taken [at Norwalk], 15 March, 1777.

JOSEPH PAYNE, Ensign in the 9th Virginia regiment. Commissioned, 4 January, 1777. Taken, 4 October, 1777.

JONTH SMITH, Ensign in the 8th Virginia regiment. Commissioned, 16 March, 1777. Taken, 4 October, 1777.

JACOB SOMERS, Ensign in the Pennsylvania militia. Taken at his own house, 1 May, 1778.

PETER PAUL, Ensign. Commissioned, 31 July, 1776. Taken, 16 November, 1776.

BENJA STORRS, Q^r Mas^r of Col. Durkee's regiment. Commissioned, 7 September, —. Taken, 22 November, 1776.

ISAAC CRANE, Adjutant of Field's militia. Taken, 16 March, 1777.

JOHN RAY, Q^r Mast^r of militia. Taken, 24 February, 1778.

THOMAS KENNEDY, Volunteer. Taken, 22 April, 1777.

WILLIAM MILLS, citizen. Taken from his own house. Never bore a commission.

SAMUEL MILLS, Q^r Mas^r Sheldon's troop of cavalry. Taken, 15 December, 1777.

THOMAS MILLARD, 2^d Lieut. in Phila. militia. Commissioned, 1 May, 1777. Taken, 14 February, 1778.

AARON CHEW, 2^d Lieut. in Jersey militia. Taken, 19 June, 1778.

JOHN COZENS, Captain in Jersey militia. Taken, 9 March, 1778, at his house, New Jersey. No commission. Should be No. 36 if exchanged as a Captain.

— GOODALL, Captain.

JOHN SWAN, Captain in Baylor's Dragoons. Taken, 28 Sept., —, Jamen Town.

WILLIAM MARTIN, Lieut. in Proctor's artillery regiment. Commissioned, 1 April, 1777. Taken in New Jersey, 15 March, 1778.

SAMUEL MCFARLAN, Lieut. of the Jersey militia. Taken in New Jersey, 28 March, 1778.

JOSEPH BRITTON, Lieut. in Gist's "additional" regiment. Commissioned, 6 February, 1777. Taken on Philips Heights, above King's Bridge, 16 September, 1778.

JAMES SIMS, Lieut. in the 1st Maryland regiment. Commissioned, 17 April, 1777. Taken on Philips Heights (was taken before Britton).

WILLIAM RODGERS, Lieut. in the 4th Virginia Continental. Commissioned, 28 September, 1776. Taken in English neighborhood, New Jersey, 23 September, 1778.

ROBERT RANDOLPH, Lieut. in Baylor's Dragoons. Taken in New Jersey, 28 September, 1778.

PEREGRINE FITZCHEW [Fitzhugh], Cornet in Baylor's Dragoons. Taken in New Jersey, 28 September, 1778.

THOMAS EVANS, surgeon's mate in Baylor's Dragoons. Taken in New Jersey, 28 September, 1778.

BALDWIN DADE, volunteer in Baylor's Dragoons. Taken in New Jersey, 28 September, 1778.

JOHN KELTEY, volunteer in Baylor's Dragoons. Taken in New Jersey, 28 September, 1778. (In the provost guard.)

ALEXANDER MCCASKEY, D.C.G. of forage. Taken at Maroneck, 8 September, 1778.

MARK GARRETT, Com^y of forage. Taken at Maroneck, 8 September, 1778.

*General Washington to Colonel Samuel B. Webb.*HEAD QUARTERS MIDDLE BROOK
25th Feby, 1779.

DEAR SIR:

Agreeable to my promise, when you were at Head Quarters, I have had a calculation made from the last returns of the Commissary of Prisoners, of the number of privates which upon the several propositions that have been made by the enemy, we should have to give them in a general exchange of our officers for officers and privates of the Convention Troops—By submitting this to Congress, if necessary, they will be the better able to decide on the propriety of adopting the measure solicited in the memorial which you have been appointed to present.

I am with great regard

Dear Sir

Your most obed Ser^t.

COLONEL WEBB.

Go WASHINGTON.

[See table on opposite page.]

A LIST OF OFFICERS, PRISONERS TO THE BRITISH, NOT EXCHANGEABLE BY THE RULES AND ARTICLES OF WAR, TAKEN FROM THEIR DIFFERENT RETURNS.

Rank.	Names.	Remarks.
L ^t Colonel	John Smock	Taken from the return of these on Parole, Long Island.
Major	George Wright	
	Robert Hodson	
Captain	Edward Hertan	
	Jacob Covenhoven	
Lieut ^a	Francis Grier	
	Benjamin Walton	
	John Blake	
	John Ofburn	
	Henry Murfits	
	Silas Snow	
	Theophilus Little	
	Cornelius Van Tafsel	
	Thomas Millard	
	James James	Taken from the return of these at home on Parole.
	Aron Chew	
Ensign	Jacob Summers	
Colonel	William Coates	
L ^t Colonel	Thomas Reynolds	
Major	Enoch Edwards	
Brg-Maj ^r	Dan ^l Hammel	
Lieut ^a	Jacob Bright	
Ensign	Andrew McMinn	
Comis ^r Gen ^l Musters	Gunning Bedford	

STATE OF THE AMERICAN OFFICERS WHO ARE PRISONERS TO THE BRITISH ARMY, 24TH NOVEMBER, 1778.

	COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.										STAFF.							NAVY.								
	Brig. Generals.	Colonels.	Lieut ^t Colonels.	Majors.	Majors ^{re} Brigade.	Captains.	Capt ^t Lieutenants.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Cornets.	Dep. Adj ^t Gen ^l .	Dep. Com. Gen. Forage.	A. D. Q. M. General.	A. D. C. Gen ^l Forage.	Commissary.	Forage Master.	Adjutants.	Quarter Masters.	Surgeons.	Chaplains.	Sub: Lieut ^s County.	Commad. State Fleet.	Captains.	Mates Armed Vessels.	Cadets.	
On parole L. Island.....	1	4	6	6	1	18	4	115	21	1	...	2	1	1	...	1	5	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	193
At home on parole	2	8	7	6	2	7	...	11	5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	1	1	...	54
Broke parole	...	1	1	2	...	17	1	43	7	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	3	2	...	80
Confined in provost	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
	3	13	14	14	3	42	5	171	34	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	6	4	3	1	1	1	4	2	1	331

Rank.	Names.	Remarks.
Colonel	John Hannum	Taken from the return of these who deserted their Parole.
L ^t Col ^l	Persifer Frazier	
Major	William Williams	
	Benj ^a Bowne	
Captain	Samuel Swift	
Lieu ^t	Andrew Forrest	
	Daniel Cressop	In Provost.
	Joseph Blake	
Ensign	William Marrener	
Lieu	Joel Westcot	
Comit	Thomas Kilty	

	Colonels.	L ^t Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Cornets.	Brig ^d Major.	Comms ^y Gen ^l Musters.	Total.
On Parole Long Island	...	1	2	2	11	1	...	...	...	17
On Parole at home	1	1	1	...	1	1	...	1	1	7
Deserted Parole.....	1	1	2	1	3	1	...	...	...	9
In Provost.....	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	2
Total not Exchangeable	2	3	5	3	16	3	1	1	1	35

N.B.—Besides the above there are twenty Prisoners of different Ranks to be deducted from the Enemy's General return who have been either since exchanged, Came under the Navy Department or are Citizens. Those whose names are specified in this List, ought not to be accounted for, according to the Custom of War, as I am well acquainted with the Circumstances of their Capture & the manner in which they made their escape.

A LIST OF OFFICERS DUE FROM THE ENEMY THE 8 DAY OF
DECEMBER ANNO 1778.

Rank.	Names.	Corps.	Remarks.
Major	Frederick Hundran	Long Isd Milit ^a	
	— D'Marbaum	Dragoons	
Captain	R. Dawes —	53 ^d Regiment	
	Simon Lord —	do do	
	John Beard	do do	

Rank.	Names.	Corps.	Remarks.
Captain	D. Guyun	L ^t Infantry	
	Dammies —	ditto	
	Slagentuffle	Dragoons	
	John Barbarie	1 st Jersey Volunt ^r	
Lieu ^t	Thomas Hughs	53 ^d Regim ^t	
	Archib ^d Gordon	do do	
	John M. Brown	do do	
	Alex ^r Frazer	71 st Regim ^t	
	— Meyer	Grenadiers	
	— Beryhoff	ditto	
	— Brevia	Dragoons	
	— Roachrodt	do	
	— Roch	do	
	— Nesbit	do	
Ensign	Chevalier Dentreofhe	62 ^d Regm ^t	
	Thomas Mann	Kings Loy ^l Am ^r	
	Jemeriah Pemberton	ditto	
	— Audra	Infantry	
	— D Nacke	do	
	— D. Ranzan	do	
Comit	— Strutza	Dragoons	
Chaplain	— Melikimer	ditto	
Judge Advoc ^e	— Thomas	} Dragoons	
Surgeon	Verbroof		
Barrack	} Ifaac Bonnell		
Master			
Com's ^r	— Fromaute		
Surgeon	— Menza	} Hospitals	
Mate	— Chew		
Surgeon	— Seely		

	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Comits.	Commiffaries.	Quar Masters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Chaplains.	Cadets.	Barr st Masters.	Judge Advoc ^e .	Rank Unknown.	Privates due up Pr Settle ^d Nov ^r 23 ^d 78.	Servts of British & German Officers.	Total.
With the Enemy.....	2	7	11	6	1	1	...	2	2	1	...	1	1	...	80	23	138
With us.....	...	6	9	3	...	1	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	6	800	...	829
Total.....	2	13	20	9	1	2	1	2	2	1	3	1	1	6	880	23	967

N.B.—There may probably be more Officers and Privates prisoners with us than are included in the above return, but having no regular reports from my Deputy's, I cannot exactly ascertain the number.

STATE OF OFFICERS IN CAPTIVITY, EXCLUSIVE OF THOSE OF
THE CONVENTION TROOPS.¹

	Brigadiers.	Colonels.	L. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.
American officers in Captivity per return N ^o 1.....	3	13	14	14	42	176	36
Officers included in the above whom we refuse to exchange as p list N ^o 2.....	...	2	3	5	3	16	4
By the same list there appears to be 20 others not enumerated, who are not properly exchangeable, which may be proportioned thus.....	...	...	...	1	5	10	4
Officers, prisoners with us, who have been sent into the enemy for whom they have not returned others—and those still in our hands, exclusive of the Convention troops—as p Return—N ^o 3.....	...	...	...	2	13	20	10
Total to be deducted from the above.....	...	2	3	8	21	46	18
Balance in favour of the enemy.....	3	11	11	6	21	130	18

From the above estimate, it appears, that the balance of Prisoners, in officers, in favour of the enemy exclusive of the troops of the Convention, and inferior staff officers who are omitted as they do not materially affect the calculation—is

3 Brigadiers	21 Captains
11 Colonels	130 Lieutenants
11 L Colonels	18 Ensigns
6 Majors	

The ultimatum of the enemy's propositions as mentioned in private conversation was to exchange one half of our officers for as many of theirs of the Convention troops and the remainder in private men on this plan.

The number to be exchanged for privates will be

1 Brigadier	10 Captains
6 Colonels	65 Lieutenants
6 Lieutenant Colonels	9 Ensigns
3 Majors	

¹ This table is in the MS. of Alexander Hamilton.

The lowest ratio that can be thought of between officers which is founded upon the number of grades in each commission is—

a Colonel	as	6	Captain	as	3
Lieut. Colonel	as	5	Lieutenant	as	2
Major	as	4	Ensign	as	1

This was proposed by the American commissioners at German town; but not acceded to—The lowest ratio to which the British Commissioners would consent, was the following—

a Colonel	as	13	Capt	as	3
L Colonel	as	8	Lieu	as	2
Major	as	5	Enf	as	1

The ratio settled in the cartel between the French and English in 59 was, in the infantry

		German florins.
a Colonel	as.....	600
Lieut Colonel	as.....	300
Major	as.....	120
Captain	as.....	70
Lieutenant	as.....	24
Ensign	as.....	20
Private	as.....	4

Reduced to numbers upon the principle of the two foregoing it would stand thus—

a Colonel	as.....	30
L Colonel	as.....	15
Major	as.....	6
Capt	as.....	3½
Lt	as.....	1½
Ensign	as.....	1

The calculation on the first ratio will stand thus—

1 Brigadier	say equal to	2 Colonels	@ 6.....	12
		6 Colonels	@ 6.....	36
		6 L Col ^s	5.....	30
		3 Majors	4.....	12
		10 Captains	3.....	30
		65 Lieutenants	2.....	130
		9 Ensigns	at.....	9
				<u>259</u>

Five privates for an Ensign is as low an estimate as can well be made. It is agreeable to the precedent of 59 before mentioned and would be insisted on, upon the credit of that precedent; not to say, that to uphold the importance of a commission it cannot decently be valued lower.

	Privates.
	259 @ 5 will amount to 1295
Calculating on the second ratio by the same process the amount	
will be.....	1680
On the third ratio it will be.....	2350

N.B.—In the proposition lately made by the British Adjutant General through Mr. Loring to Mr Beatty, it was proposed to settle the equivalent of privates for officers, agreeable to the third plan.

The plan most commonly held out by the enemy for the exchange of the Convention troops is to do it by whole corps. On this plan as those troops particularly the German are very thinly officered they would receive a much larger number of privates, than on the calculation here made for exchanging one half our officers for private men.

These calculations could not be entirely accurate; but they are nearly so; and will serve to form a judgment upon. They if anything rather fall short of than exceed the truth.